Amendments to the Specification

Please replace on page 12 the paragraph that begins "In one embodiment of device 101 . . . ." with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment of device 101 at least portions of closed ends 124 serve as filter elements 125 for filtering harmful-size emboli from blood flow. Filter elements 125 are made of blood-permeable material. The remaining portions of membrane tube [[125]] 120 (e.g., sides 126) may be made of blood-impervious material. The materials used to fabricate membrane tube [[125]] 120 components can be any suitable ~~bicompatible~~ biocompatible material, such as, for example, ePFTE (e.g., Gortex®), polyester (e.g., Dacron®), PTFE (e.g., Teflon®), silicone, urethane, metal fibers, or other biocompatible polymers. The structure of the blood-permeable material used to fabricate filter elements 125 is preferably a two-dimensional screen, a cellular matrix, a woven or non-woven mesh, or the like. The structure of the blood-permeable material may also be that of a permeable metal or a mesh of fine metal fibers. Further, the blood-permeable material in filter elements 125 may be coated or covered with an anticoagulant, such as heparin, or another compound, or treated to provide antithrombogenic properties to the filter elements 125 to inhibit clogging of filter elements 125 by an accumulation of blood clots.
